

Amendments to the Claims

The claims have not been amended, but are presented here for the convenience of the Examiner.

1. (original) An apparatus, comprising:
a first electronic device adapted to
compare a first indicator of a predicted duration of a first transmission to
a second electronic device with a second indicator of a predicted duration of a second
transmission to a third electronic device;
adjust starting times of at least one of the first and second transmissions
to cause the first and second transmissions to end at approximately a same time; and
transmit the first and second transmissions using the adjusted starting
times.
2. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first electronic device is further
adapted to receive a first response comprising a first acknowledgment to the first
transmission from the second electronic device and to receive a second response
comprising a second acknowledgment to the second transmission from a third
electronic device.
3. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first electronic device is further
adapted to include a poll in the first transmission and to include a poll and other data in
the second transmission.

4. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first electronic device is further adapted to set a transmission period for the first and second transmissions based on a longer of the predicted durations of the first and second transmissions.
5. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein:
the first transmission and the second transmission are to have different data rates; and
the predicted durations of the first and second transmissions are partly based on the different data rates.
6. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first electronic device comprises a computing platform to perform said comparing.
7. (original) The apparatus of claim 6, further comprising at least four modulator/demodulators coupled to the computing platform.
8. (original) The apparatus of claim 7, further comprising at least four antennas, each of the at least four antennas coupled to at least one of the at least four modulator/demodulators.
9. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first electronic device comprises a base station.

10. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the second and third electronic devices comprise mobile devices.
11. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first electronic device is further adapted to transmit the first and second transmissions using spatial division multiple access techniques.
12. (original) A method, comprising:
- making a comparison of a first indicator of a predicted duration of a first transmission to a first electronic device with a second indicator of a predicted duration of a second transmission to a second electronic device;
 - beginning a transmission of a longer of the first and second transmissions; and
 - beginning a transmission of a shorter of the first and second transmissions after a delay approximately equal to a difference between the predicted duration of the first transmission and the predicted duration of the second transmission;
- wherein the first and second transmissions use spatial division multiple access techniques.
13. (original) The method of claim 12, further comprising ending the first and second transmissions at approximately a same time.
14. (original) The method of claim 13, further comprising beginning an acknowledgment timeout period after said ending the first and second transmissions.

15. (original) The method of claim 12, further comprising receiving a first response from the first electronic device and receiving a second response from the second electronic device substantially simultaneously.

16. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein said receiving the first and second responses comprises receiving a beginning of the first and second responses approximately an interframe space after an end of the first and second transmissions.

17. (original) The method of claim 12, further comprising using data rates to determine the predicted durations.

18. (original) A machine-readable medium that provides instructions, which when executed by a processing platform, cause said processing platform to perform operations comprising:

determining predicted durations of multiple transmissions to be transmitted from an electronic device;

adjusting start times for at least some of the transmissions to cause the multiple transmissions to end at approximately a same time; and

transmitting the multiple transmissions substantially simultaneously using the adjusted start times and using spatial division multiple access techniques.

19. (original) The medium of claim 18, wherein said determining comprises using data rates to determine said predicted durations.

20. (original) The medium of claim 18, wherein the operations further comprise receiving responses to the multiple transmissions substantially simultaneously.

21. (original) The medium of claim 20, wherein the operations further comprise initiating a timeout period for reception of an acknowledgment to at least one of the multiple transmissions.

22. (original) The medium of claim 20, wherein said receiving comprises receiving beginnings of the responses approximately an interframe space after an end of the multiple transmissions.